

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

WO 00/0690  
PCT/GB99/C

PCT

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

## NOTICE INFORMING THE APPLICANT OF THE COMMUNICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION TO THE DESIGNATED OFFICES

(PCT Rule 47.1(c), first sentence)

To:

THAKER, Shalini  
Group IPR Department  
Huntleigh Technology PLC  
310-312 Dallow Road  
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RECEIVED

10 FEB 2000

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

10 February 2000 (10.02.00)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

P3067

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

International application No.

PCT/GB99/02403

International filing date (day/month/year)

23 July 1999 (23.07.99)

Priority date (day/month/year)

25 July 1998 (25.07.98)

Applicant

HUNTLEIGH TECHNOLOGY PLC et al

1. Notice is hereby given that the International Bureau has communicated, as provided in Article 20, the international application to the following designated Offices on the date indicated above as the date of mailing of this Notice:  
AU,CN,EP,IL,JP,KP,KR,US

In accordance with Rule 47.1(c), third sentence, those Offices will accept the present Notice as conclusive evidence that the communication of the international application has duly taken place on the date of mailing indicated above and no copy of the international application is required to be furnished by the applicant to the designated Office(s).

2. The following designated Offices have waived the requirement for such a communication at this time:  
AL,AM,AP,AT,AZ,BA,BB,BG,BR,BY,CA,CH,CU,CZ,DE,DK,EA,EE,ES,FI,GB,GD,GE,GH,GM,HR,HU,  
ID,IN,IS,KE,KG,KZ,LC,LK,LR,LS,LT,LU,LV,MD,MG,MK,MN,MW,MX,NO,NZ,OA,PL,PT,RO,RU,SD,  
SE,SG,SI,SK,SL,TJ,TM,TR,TT,UA,UG,UZ,VN,YU,ZW  
The communication will be made to those Offices only upon their request. Furthermore, those Offices do not require the applicant to furnish a copy of the international application (Rule 49.1(a-bis)).

3. Enclosed with this Notice is a copy of the international application as published by the International Bureau on  
10 February 2000 (10.02.00) under No. WO 00/06904

### REMINDER REGARDING CHAPTER II (Article 31(2)(a) and Rule 54.2)

If the applicant wishes to postpone entry into the national phase until 30 months (or later in some Offices) from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed with the competent International Preliminary Examining Authority before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date.

It is the applicant's sole responsibility to monitor the 19-month time limit.

Note that only an applicant who is a national or resident of a PCT Contracting State which is bound by Chapter II has the right to file a demand for international preliminary examination.

### REMINDER REGARDING ENTRY INTO THE NATIONAL PHASE (Article 22 or 39(1))

If the applicant wishes to proceed with the international application in the national phase, he must, within 20 months or 30 months, or later in some Offices, perform the acts referred to therein before each designated or elected Office.

For further important information on the time limits and acts to be performed for entering the national phase, see the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 (Notification of Receipt of Record Copy) and Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The International Bureau of WIPO  
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1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

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Authorized officer

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NOTICE INFORMING THE APPLICANT OF THE COMMUNICATION OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION TO THE DESIGNATED OFFICES

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 10 February 2000 (10.02.00)	IMPORTANT NOTICE
Applicant's or agent's file reference P3067	
	International application No. PCT/GB99/02403

The applicant is hereby notified that, at the time of establishment of this Notice, the time limit under Rule 46.1 for making amendments under Article 19 has not yet expired and the International Bureau had received neither such amendments nor a declaration that the applicant does not wish to make amendments.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>P3067</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. <b>PCT/GB 99/ 02403</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>23/07/1999</b>	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) <b>25/07/1998</b>
Applicant <b>HUNTLEIGH TECHNOLOGY PLC et al.</b>		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 5 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3. ☒ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

**IDENTIFICATION AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEM FOR INFLATABLE DEVICES**

5. With regard to the abstract,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1  
☐ None of the figures.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/GB 99/ 02403

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210**

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

**1. Claims: 1-4**

**1.1 Claims: 1,2**

A pneumatic control system as in claim 1 to instruct the pump to operate a predetermined inflation.

**1.2 Claims: 1,3**

A pneumatic control system as in claim 1, with the communication means within the connection means.

**1.3 Claims: 1,4**

A pneumatic control system as in claim 1, wherein the communication means do not contact each other.

**2. Claims: 5-7**

A pneumatic control system as in claim 1, wherein the article is a support for a patient to lie on.

**3. Claims: 8-10**

A pneumatic control system as in claim 1, wherein the article is an inflatable garment.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PC 7 GB 99/02403

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 F04B49/06 B60S5/04 A61H23/04 A47C27/08 G06K19/07  
A61G7/057

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 F04B B60S A61H A47C G06K A61G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	GB 2 214 678 A (M BRINDLEY) 6 September 1989 (1989-09-06)	1-4
A	page 3, line 19 - page 5, line 9 page 6, line 5 - line 8; figures ---	5,8
X	WO 94 04398 A (ACKERMANN GEORG) 3 March 1994 (1994-03-03)	1-4
A	page 3, line 18 - line 35 page 4, line 7 - page 5, line 10 page 10, line 30 - page 12, line 20; figures ---	5,8
P, X	GB 2 323 453 A (KING ANDRE ALAN DONALD) 23 September 1998 (1998-09-23)	1-4
A	page 2, line 15 - line 22 ---	5,8
	--- -/--	



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents :

\*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

\*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

\*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

\*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

\*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

\*&amp;\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 January 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

20. 01. 2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Authorized officer

Jones, T

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/GB 99/02403

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 96 14785 A (LAKE MEDICAL PRODUCTS, INC.) 23 May 1996 (1996-05-23) cited in the application abstract; figures ---	5
A	US 5 681 339 A (MCEWEN ET AL.) 28 October 1997 (1997-10-28) abstract; figures 1,2 ---	8
A	FR 2 678 825 A (FLEURY) 15 January 1993 (1993-01-15) page 3, line 15 - line 33; figures -----	8

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 99/02403

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
GB 2214678	A	06-09-1989	NONE		
WO 9404398	A	03-03-1994	DE	9210798 U	23-09-1993
			AU	4697793 A	15-03-1994
GB 2323453	A	23-09-1998	NONE		
WO 9614785	A	23-05-1996	US	5584084 A	17-12-1996
			AU	4159696 A	06-06-1996
			CA	2205375 A	23-05-1996
			EP	0792116 A	03-09-1997
US 5681339	A	28-10-1997	AU	3021497 A	06-03-1998
			WO	9806373 A	19-02-1998
			EP	0917453 A	26-05-1999
			US	5935146 A	10-08-1999
FR 2678825	A	15-01-1993	AU	2328292 A	11-02-1993
			WO	9300875 A	21-01-1993